

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

Vol. IV

MONTREAL & NEW YORK, FOR THE WEEK ENDING, FEBRUARY 28, 1885.

No. 9.

## The Weekly Messenger

### THE SOUDAN WAR.

There has been a great deal of anxiety felt during the week for the small British forces in the Soudan. General Buller, who was left in command of a little army,—less than 2,000 men,—at Gubat on the Nile, learned that the Mahdi was sending down a great force to annihilate the British. The order was therefore given to march back across the desert, by the way which General Stewart had traversed with so much difficulty and bloodshed. On reaching the wells at Abu Klea, where General Stewart received the wound from which he has at last died, the Arabs were so numerous and threatening that Buller had to call a halt and prepare for any attack. Four hundred Arab sharpshooters, armed with capital rifles, kept up a severe firing at long range; two of the British were killed and eleven wounded—but the fire was not returned, as the army had to be sparing in the use of ammunition. The Arabs tried to place a battery of artillery for use against the British, but Gen. Buller commenced a systematic shelling of the Arab lines on the 17th instant. Two well directed shots did the enemy great damage, one shell exploding amidst a group engaged in placing a howitzer on the summit of a hill, and another removing a wheel of a gun carriage. Lord Charles Beresford also seriously injured the enemy with the Gardner guns. Major Wardrop, with thirteen men, stole cautiously round the enemy's right and found they had only a few hundred riflemen on the hills and no reserve spearmen. They then carried out a clever and daring piece of stratagem. Keeping out of sight, they sent several volleys at 800 yards on the enemy's flank. Leaving one man at this point to continue firing, Major Wardrop took twelve others and pursued the same tactics at three successive hills, giving the Arabs the impression that fresh bodies of British troops were arriving. The Mahdi's forces became panic-stricken, ceased firing, and decamped, toward Metemneh, taking their guns, dead and wounded with them. A few Arab scouts only were left three miles off to watch Gen. Buller's movements.

Reinforcements, especially camels for transport, have been sent to General Buller, and as soon as they arrive he will leave his shelter and continue his perilous march back to Korti. There, or at some place still more secure, the British troops will wait until preparations are all completed for an energetic and successful campaign. It is probable that no advance will be made before the fall. Gordon is no longer there to be rescued: and a war in the Soudan during the hot season would be more disastrous by reason of the climate than by anything that the Mahdi could do. As to any advance across the desert from the Red Sea, it is stated nothing can possibly be done for four or five weeks, as a deadly wind is blowing now.

The first instalment of Indian troops has sailed from Bombay, amid great enthusi-

asm of the people. The offer of New South Wales to send a regiment to the Soudan at its own expense has been accepted, and no less than \$750,000 has been subscribed by inhabitants of that colony for the Patriotic Fund. Several other Australian colonies have made offers of troops. The Queen has sent a message of warm gratitude to her colonial subjects for their offers of assistance.

At Ottawa, in addition to the telegram conveying Her Majesty's thanks for the offer made by several Canadian officers to raise a Canadian force for service in Egypt, the Governor-General has received another despatch from Earl Derby, stating that Her Majesty's Government highly appreciate the patriotism which has been exhibited. Lord Derby adds that the length of time which would necessarily elapse before such a force could be embarked for active service rendered it, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, inadvisable to accept the proffered assistance at the present moment. The force already under orders is, Her Majesty's Government believes, sufficient, but should military operations be prolonged and the offers which have been made by the Canadian officers be renewed, Her Majesty's Government would gladly take those offers into consideration, subject to detailed information as to the character of the force which might be sent out and the conditions under which it would be engaged.

On Friday, the Prince of Wales inspected the Grenadier Guards previous to their departure for Egypt. He said he well remembered that day, 31 years ago, when this same battalion departed for the Crimea, and he distinctly recalled the bravery with which they bore their part in that great struggle. He wished them God speed and a safe and speedy return to England. The Prince shook hands heartily with the officers while the men cheered enthusiastically. The Queen sent an autograph letter to the officers, assuring them of her good wishes and prayers.

The streets were full of people cheering on the soldiers, and flags were flying all along the line of march. A still more enthusiastic send-off was given to the Scots Guards, the population turning out in thousands, and the Prince of Wales again being present with his daughter.

Turkey is grumbling very much about Italy's conduct in sending troops into Egypt and threatens to prevent her by force of arms from doing so. Italy, however, continues to strengthen her positions on the Red Sea coast, and the Turkish expeditions has not yet started. It is thought a hint from Britain, that the Turks would not be allowed even to pass through the Suez Canal, has put a stop to any further grumbling from a country that is well described as the "sick man" of the European powers.

A DESPATCH received from Tiekahnsk, Siberia, states that the exiles in that place recently revolted, and before the outbreak could be suppressed, thirty of the exiles were killed outright and a large number wounded. Nine of the soldiers were killed.

### BRITAIN AND GERMANY.

It seems that Germany has really established a protectorate over the Samoan Islands, by a treaty with the natives. This treaty provides for the creation of a Council of State, to consist of the German consul, two Samoans, and two Germans. This council is empowered to enact laws in the interest of the Samoans and of the Germans resident upon the islands. A German officer will act as the adviser of the King, and will serve as judge in all penal matters in which Germans are concerned. Prisoners are to be erected for German offenders. The King undertakes to establish a police force for the protection of the Germans. The necessary expenses will be covered by taxes on the Germans, supplemented by the amounts derived from fines and prison labor. Germany is allowed to withdraw from this agreement by giving six months' notice.

Herr Krauel, the commissioner appointed by Germany to adjust the dispute with England concerning the respective rights of the two countries in the Island of New Guinea, the Fiji Islands and the South Sea Islands, has departed on his mission to London. He is empowered to negotiate on the part of Germany for a definition of territory in the disputed possessions, for a guarantee of acquired rights, for equal liberty of settlement, commerce and navigation, and for a joint control of the labor traffic question.

### A YOUNG PRINCE'S SPEECH.

The first public appearance of Prince Albert Victor, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, since his coming of age, was at the opening of a club-house for bootblacks and other poor boys in the East of London. His speech, though not containing anything very deep, shows a good heart and some very practical wisdom. He said: Boys of the Whittington Club and of the East London Shoeblick Society, and friends, I am very glad to see you to-day. I hope that each and all of you will try as hard as you can to be a credit to this club and to yourselves. (Hear, hear.) I wish to help you in doing this by asking you to remember two things. First, whatever you do, whether it be blacking a pair of shoes, practising gymnastics, reading a book, helping a friend—whatever it is, do it as well as you can. (Cheers.) "If a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well" is a good old English motto. Secondly, never do what you know to be wrong. Often you will feel inclined, either through your own wishes, or the promptings of companions, to do something you would like, but which your conscience tells you ought not to be done. (Hear, hear.) Well, then is the time not to give way; be brave, stand firm, refuse under any circumstances to do what you are not sure is right. (Hear, hear.) May I ask you to remember these two things? If you will do so, then as you grow up you will be worthy to play your part as English citizens. And when you come to years of discretion you will be able to judge for yourselves whether you will remain in England, or whether you will seek your share

in the English lands beyond the seas. There is plenty of room out there. (Hear, hear.) Ample air and larger aims, and here you seem rather crowded. (Laughter.) May God bless you all, whether here or there. (Cheers.)

### BURIED IN THE SNOW.

Fred Cullinan, who was buried longer than any other of those rescued from the Alta snowslide, in Utah, was interviewed by a correspondent a few days ago, and gives this account of the avalanche: Albert Thomas, proprietor of the hotel, was out getting snow to melt for water when he saw the slide coming. Thomas gave the alarm and ran to a less exposed part of the building, followed by others who heard him. Cullinan was in the back shed of the hotel. The first he knew of the slide was when he heard it strike Regan's saloon. He tried to turn, but had not time before he was caught and covered with boards and timbers. A board was across his neck, one arm was stretched straight out and held fast. He could only move one hand a little with a miner's candlestick which he happened to be holding in the hand. With this he cut off the board pressing on his neck, which was almost suffocating him. He found it short and pushed it away so that he could breathe. He hallooed all the time and was first heard about nine o'clock the next morning. It took four hours to get him out from under fifteen feet of snow.

He had the candlestick in his hand when he got out and was so stiff and bruised that he could not move. He had to be rolled out like a log. For two days he couldn't move in bed. He had on only a pair of overalls and boots with a miner's shirt and had to be hauled down the canyon on a sled. He says he felt confident all the time that he would be rescued. He did not feel hurt. He was not carried far, being caught at about the limit of the slide. He could hear them digging above him and was satisfied that they would get to him after a while. Parker Norton organized the digging force and dug himself longer and harder than anybody. He supplied hot coffee and crackers for all, and when all were got out that could be found went out and broke two miles of road. The party would not have been able to get down the canyon that day but for him.

DR. TALMAGE having denounced the Speaker of the New Jersey legislature for profanity, and that official having retorted by calling Dr. Talmage a liar, the preacher has replied in a letter containing extracts from the proceedings of the legislature. From these, it appears that the Speaker indulged freely in the use of profane language. The divine expresses utter contempt for the members who made an "asinine exhibition of themselves" last Tuesday, and says they would disgrace a mule driver on the Raritan canal. The only merciful explanation of their behavior is that they were over-stimulated by Jersey lightning.

THE DYNAMITERS and Fenians express savage sympathy with the Mahdi, and talk a great deal about sending him assistance.